

IN THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

18. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 21 or 22 and an enteric coating thereon.

19. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 21 or 22, an intermediate coating and an enteric coating.

20. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 21 or 22, an intermediate coating, an enteric coating and a moisture resistant coating.

21. (Previously Amended) A composition comprising (A) rabeprazole or an alkali metal salt thereof and (B) sodium hydroxide, wherein the composition comprises 1 part by weight of (A) and 0.01 to 2 parts by weight of (B).

22. (Previously Amended) A composition comprising (A) rabeprazole or an alkali metal salt thereof, (B) crospovidone and sodium hydroxide, wherein the composition comprises 1 part by weight of (A), 0.01 to 2 parts by weight of sodium hydroxide and 0.5 to 5 parts by weight of crospovidone.

24. (Previously Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein components (A) and (B) are uniformly mixed with each other.

25. (Previously Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein (A) is mixed with a portion of (B) to form granules, then a further amount of (B) is added to the granules and mixed, then the mixture is formed into a tablet.

26. (Previously Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21 or 22 wherein (A) is mixed with a portion of (B) and formed into a core, then a further amount of (B) is coated as a layer onto the core.

27. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 22 and an enteric coating.

28. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 22, an intermediate coating and an enteric coating.

29. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core consisting of the composition as claimed in claim 22, an intermediate coating, an enteric coating and a moisture-resistant coating.

30. (Original) The composition according to claim 22, which further comprises an antioxidant.

31. (Previously Amended) The pharmaceutical preparation according to any one of claims 27, 28 or 29, wherein the core further comprises an antioxidant.

32. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core which comprises the composition of claim 21 or 22 coated with an enteric coating and further with a moisture-resistant coating.

33. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a core which comprises the composition of claim 21 or 22 coated with an intermediate coating, further with an enteric coating and then with a moisture-resistant coating.

34. ~~Canceled.~~

35. (New) A composition comprising (A) rabeprazole or an alkali metal salt thereof and (B) sodium hydroxide, wherein the composition comprises 1 part by weight of (A) and 0.01 to 0.5 parts by weight of (B).

36. (New) A composition comprising (A) rabeprazole or an alkali metal salt thereof, (B) crospovidone and sodium hydroxide, wherein the composition comprises 1 part by weight of (A), 0.01 to 0.5 parts by weight of sodium hydroxide and 0.5 to 5 parts by weight of crospovidone.

37. (New) The composition according to claim 35 or 36 which comprises 1 part by weight of (A) and 0.05 parts by weight of (B).